

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 01439 261715Z

70

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SY-05 PPT-01 SCA-01 H-02 L-03

SCCT-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 /074 W

----- 008513

R 260844Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7630

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMZMBASSY MONROVIA 209

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEXBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 1439

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: COVERT EVANGELISTS - NOT TERRORISTS

REF A. NDJAMENA 2421 B. BAMAKO 3589

1. AN ORIENTAL BUSINESSMAN, PROBABLY JAPANESE, WHO REPORTEDLY
SELLS TEA AND SPEAKS NO FRENCH AND VERY LITTLE ENGLISH
ARRIVED COTONOU FEW WEEKS AGO TO JOIN TWO YOUNG WOMEN, AN
AMERICAN CITIZEN AND A GERMAN CITIZEN, BOTH OF WHOM HAD ALREADY
BEEN HERE APPROX 3 MONTHS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COTONO 01439 261715Z

2. AMCIT HAS HAD ONLY VERY LIMITED AND APPARENTLY CALCULATED STAND-OFFISH CONTACT WITH EMBASSY. HER ORIGINAL STORY WAS THAT SHE AND HER GERMAN FRIEND INTENDED TO SPEND SIX MONTHS HERE TO GET TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT WEST AFRICA IN GENERAL AND DAHOMEY IN PARTICULAR. SHE SAYS NEITHER OF THEM HAS HAD ANY PREVIOUS CONTACT WITH THIS PART OF THE WORLD. SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE WORKED AS AN AIRLINE TICKET AGENT PRIOR TO "LEAVING IT ALL" TO SEE AFRICA.

3. ALTHOUGH TRIO HAS NO VISIBLE MEANS OF SUPPORT, THEY HAVE RENTED HOUSE AND PURCHASED BICYCLES.

4. DURING COURSE OF HER LAST CONTACT WITH EMBASSY, AMCIT MENTIONED THAT "SALE OF TEA" NOT GOING WELL IN DAHOMEY. MORE FAVORABLE SITUATION EXISTED IN LAGOS AND ABIDJAN, WHERE REPS OF THE SAME (UNNAMED) COMPANY WERE ALSO LOCATED. SHE HINTED (THAT) SHE MIGHT BE PAYING VISIT SOON TO LOME TO LOOK OVER SITUATION THERE (THUS IMPLYING THAT THERE MIGHT NOT ALREADY BE COLLEAGUES IN THAT CAPITAL). ALTHOUGH BUSINESS PROSPECTS HERE WERE NOT PROMISING, SHE BELIEVED SHE WOULD REMAIN IN DAHOMEY ANOTHER 6 TO 9 MONTHS SINCE SHE HAD ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE ON. SHE HAS MULTIPLE ENTRY TOURIST VISA.

5. COMMENT: SIMILARITY BETWEEN THIS TRIO AND NDJAMENA TRIO BAMAKO PAIR IS STRIKING. IF THE TRIO HERE ATTEMPTS PROSELYTE OR CULTIVATE FRIENDSHIPS AMONG DAHOMEANS, THEY ARE LIKELY TO GET INTO TROUBLE WITH THE LOCAL SECURITY SERVICES, WHOSE ACTIVITIES HAVE INTENSIFIED CONSIDERABLY SINCE THE COMMUNIST AZONHIHO BECAME ACTING INTERIOR MIN THREE MONTHS AGO. SINCE WE SEE IN THEIR PRESENCE A POTENTIAL FOR EXPULSION AS "AGENTS OF CIA" WE ARE MAKING DISCREET EFFORTS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM.
ENGLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COTONO01439
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750335-0587
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750911/aaaaajsl.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NDJAMENA 2421, 75 BAMAKO 3589
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <29 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COVERT EVANGELISTS - NOT TERRORISTS
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006